

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-15 SAJ-01 SAM-01 OIC-02 ACDA-10 NEA-10 DHA-02  
OMB-01 TRSE-00 /109 W  
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R 142352Z DEC 76  
FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1682  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS USUN 6152

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, UN, UR  
SUBJ: SOVIET ASSESSMENT OF THE 31ST UNGA

1. AMBASSADOR ISSRAELYAN, DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS,  
MFA, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE SOVIET DELEGATION IN NEW  
YORK, GAVE THE UN PRESS CORPS ON DECEMBER 14 THE FOLLOWING  
ASSESSMENT OF THE 31ST UNGA.

OVERVIEW: ISSRAELYAN SAID THAT THE SESSION HAD TAKEN A  
CONSTRUCTIVE AND BUSINESSLIKE APPROACH AND, IN A  
COMPARATIVELY QUIET AND NON-CONFRONTATIONIST ATMOSPHERE,  
HAD ACHIEVED SOME POSITIVE RESULTS. AMONG ITS 120  
DECISIONS, THE ADMISSION OF ANGOLA AND SAMOA, AND THE PASSAGE  
OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION CONVENTION WERE IMPORTANT  
DEVELOPMENTS.

NON-USE OF FORCE PROPOSAL: THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ISSRAELYAN  
SAID, HAD SHOWN GREAT INTEREST IN THE SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR  
A WORLD TREATY ON THE NON-USE OF FORCE, HE EXPRESSED  
THE HOPE THAT GOVERNMENTS WOULD GIVE THIS MATTER CAREFUL  
STUDY, AND PROVIDE THE SECRETARY GENERAL WITH THEIR VIEWS  
BY JUNE 1977 SO THAT THE 32ND UNGA CAN GIVE FURTHER  
CONSIDERATION TO IT.

DISARMAMENT: THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ALSO HAD SHOWN GREAT  
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INTEREST IN THE SOVIET DISARMAMENT MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED

BY FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO. THE SOVIET UNION WAS PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THE ASSEMBLY HAD ADOPTED THE RESOLUTION OPENING THE ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION CONVENTION FOR SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION.

MIDDLE EAST: ISSRAELYAN SAID THAT CONSIDERATION OF THE MIDDLE EAST ISSUE BY THE UN CONSTITUTED A PRODUCTIVE STEP TOWARD THE RECONVENING OF THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE. STATING THAT THERE HAD BEEN "NO CHANGE SHATSOEVER" IN SOVIET MIDDLE EAST POLICY, HE SAID THAT IN THE SOVIET VIEW THE PLO MUST PARTICIPATE IN THE GENERAL CONFERENCE FROM THE VERY BEGINNING. AS A RESULT OF THE RABAT DECISION OF COTOBER 1974. THE SOVIETS HAD NO DOUBT THAT THE PLO WAS THE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. ISSRAELYAN ADDED THAT THE SOVIET UNION WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO BRING THE PLO TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE, BUT DECLINED TO PROVIDE DETAILS ON ANY SPECIFIC FORMULA FOR PLO REPRESENTATION.

SOUTH AFRICA: ISSRAELYAN SAID THAT THERE WAS NO INCONSISTENCY BETWEEN SOVIET SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA AND ITS OPPOSITION TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME ON THE ONE HAND, AND ITS COMMITMENT TO THE MAINTENANCE OF PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ON THE OTHER. NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, HE SAID, HAVE THE RIGHT UNDER THE UN CHARTER TO STRUGGLE FOR THEIR OBJECTIVES; THE MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY IS A MATTER OF RELATIONS BETWEEN STATES. THE BASIS FOR OPPOSING THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT IS ITS MAINTENANCE OF A RACIST APARTHEID REGIME AND ITS REFUSAL TI GIVE UP ITS COLONIAL REPRESENTATION IN NAMIBIA.

FRG HOSTAGES PROPOSAL: REPLYING TO A QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THE "RIGHT TO STRUGGLE" OF NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS INCLUDES THE RIGHT TO TAKE HOSTAGES, ISSRAELYAN SAID THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS OPPOSED TO "POLITICAL TERRORISM".

HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES: REPLYING TO A QUESTION AS TO WHY THE SOVIET UNION DID NOT PLAY A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN HUMAN UNCLASSIFIED

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RIGHTS ISSUES, ISSRAELYAN SAID THAT THE SOVIET ARE ACTIVE ON ALL ISSUES BUT THAT THEY BELIEVE THE PRINCIPLE PURPOSE OF THE UN IS THE MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY.

VIETNAM ADMISSION: ISSRAELYAN CRITICIZED THE US FOR CONTINUING TO BLOCK THE ADMISSION OF VIETNAM TO THE UN. SCRANTON

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